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AMENDMENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ondrej Such

Attorney Docket No.: MSFT117208

Application No.: 09/217,389

Group Art Unit: 2151

Filed: December 21, 1998

Examiner: Li B. Zhen

Title: RECYCLABLE LOCKING FOR MULTI-THREADED COMPUTING ENVIRONMENTS

AMENDMENT A AND RESPONSE

June 7, 2002

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

In response to the Office Action dated March 29, 2002, in the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 16, as follows:

Therefore, computing environments have been created that are multi-threaded. A user, is thus typically able to run more than one computer program in such environments at a single time, for example, both a word processing program and a spreadsheet program. Similarly, a program is in such environments usually able to run multiple threads or tasks concurrently, for example, a spreadsheet program can calculate a complex formula that may take minutes to complete while concurrently permitting the user to still continue editing a spreadsheet.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1, as follows:

A problem arises, however, when two threads, either of the same or different programs, attempt to access the same data object (which may in a non-limiting and nonexclusive sense be

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